



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
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Medical Director

April 22, 2014

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: *Robin Kay for*
Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director

SUBJECT: **ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO SOLE
SOURCE CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH CALIFORNIA MENTAL
HEALTH DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION**

This memo is to comply with the Board of Supervisors Policy Manual, Section 5.100, Sole Source Contracts. It is the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's (DMH's) intent to enter into sole source contract agreement with the California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA), located at 2125 19th Street, 2nd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95818.

CMHDA is a non-profit advocacy association comprised of Mental Health Directors from each of the 58 counties within the State of California, as well as the cities of Berkeley and Tri-City. Its mission is to provide leadership, advocacy, expertise and support to California county mental health programs charged with serving individuals with serious mental illness. In collaboration with various entities, CMHDA has made outstanding strides in their efforts to ensure social justice, wellness, resiliency, and recovery to the mental health population within our communities. With the formation of a sole source contract amendment, CMHDA will continue to receive the necessary resources to effectively represent the Department's interest in mental health issues to the State Department of Health Care Services and other important stakeholders dealing with the development of public policy and various legislative regulations.

CMHDA is the only agency within the State of California that can speak directly to the issues that each agency is facing in dealing with the complexities of mental illness. Its unique organizational structure of mental health directors has enabled them to establish various legislative acts necessary to meet county and city strategic objectives in relationship to quality of care, funding, and promoting consumer-oriented policies that support wellness and recovery efforts. The success of their collaborative efforts has made a significant impact in ensuring accessibility of quality, cost-effective, and culturally competent mental health care for the State of California. Without CMHDA's level of leadership, advocacy and support to the communities that provide mental health services, the necessity for quality of care will cease to exist. No other entity within the State has this level of support or direct expertise to develop policy that speaks directly

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to the issues of the mental health community. With the approval of a sole source agreement with CMHDA, DMH will receive uninterrupted services and incur a significant cost savings by forfeiting the Request for Services process which requires significant resources in time, funding and staffing to complete. The formation of a sole source contract renewal with CMHDA will allow DMH to continue its efforts in addressing regulatory issues that are currently impacting the public mental health system and the level of services provided to our consumers.

This sole source contract agreement will be for a term of one Fiscal Year, 2014-15. The contract will be funded by Mental Health Services Act Planning and Implementation for a total of \$161,820.

Unless otherwise instructed by a Board office within two weeks, DMH will proceed with negotiating a sole source contract agreement. DMH will work closely with both the Office of County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office in preparing an agreement with CMHDA.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at (213) 738-4601, or your staff may contact Angel Baker at (213) 738-4105 or abaker@dmh.lacounty.gov.

MJS:RK:DM:AB:ab

c: Health Deputies
Chief Executive Officer
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Dennis Murata, M.S.W.